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interest in the society's welfare only by contributing to its funds or collections ; many who are active and successful workers ; many who are distinguished by their attainments, and some who have reached great eminence ; and it is reasonably supposable that recruits are coming forward to fill vacancies as they occur in each of these different kinds or classes of members. It has many numerous and valuable collections in every department, some of them unsurpassed, which are continuously increasing ; and an appropriate library, the best of the kind in the country, for the steady growth of which permanent provision has been made. It owns the building it occupies, with land enough on which to expand it to twice its present dimensions. It is free from debt, and its current income has been in the past year equal to its economical expenditure.

The condition of the society, attained at the end of seventy years' existence, without any pecuniary aid whatever from the government of the State, justifies the policy which has guided the management of its affairs. There is nothing in its past history to suggest that it should depart now from the general conservative policy which has characterized almost every step of its progress since 1812. Observance of this policy has brought it to its present condition, in which there is nothing to warrant foreboding of decadence, but much on which to found hope of continuous progress. This condition is satisfactory, because at this time the income is enough to meet all unavoidable expenses. Suggested improvements in several directions are very desirable and earnestly hoped for ; but they are of such a character that they can wait until money is supplied for their realization without absolutely arresting the progress of the institution.

Respectfully submitted.

W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER.

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

The Recording Secretary respectfully reports that during the year ending Nov. 30, 1881, fifteen members and six correspondents have been elected.

Resignations of membership have been received from Messrs. J. Ward Atwood, H. Dumont Wagner, E. Eggesfield Griffith, Henry Pemberton, Jr., and Wm. F. Sellers.

The records of the death of eleven members and six correspondents have been published in the Proceedings under dates of announcement, so that it is unnecessary to repeat the names here.

Twenty papers have been accepted for publication. Eighteen of these have been printed, and the remaining two will be included in the current volume of Proceedings. The communications have been received from the following: Angelo Heilprin, 6; Rev. Dr. Henry C. McCook, 3; S. B. Buckley, 3; Henry C. Chapman, 2; Harrison Allen, Rafael Arango, John H. Ryder, R. E. C. Stearns, W. N. Lockington, and Messrs. Wachsmuth and Springer, each one.

Sixty-four pages of the volume of Proceedings for 1880, and four hundred and thirty of the volume for 1881, have been printed during the year. The fourth or concluding number of Vol. VIII of the Journal was issued and distributed to subscribers and correspondents in March.

The interest of the weekly meetings has depended mainly on the verbal communications made from time to time by Messrs. McCook, Wood, Leidy, Ryder, Meehan, Chapman, Potts, Allen, Horn, Foote, Bassett, Kite, Heilprin, Lewis, Rand, Haines, Koenig, Anders and Pike. The greater number of these have been reported by the authors, and duly published in the Proceedings.

Mr. Edw. S. Whelen having resigned from the Council and the Finance Committee, the vacancies were filled by the election, on the 22d of January, of Chas. P. Perot to the former and Isaac C. Martindale to the latter position.

A vacancy in the Council, caused by the resignation of Dr. H. C. Chapman, was filled, June 5, by the election of Dr. Geo. A. Koenig.

Article 3, Chap. XV, of the By-Laws was amended October 25 by adding after the word "election" the words "and resignation."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

EDW. J. NOLAN,
Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The Corresponding Secretary reports that the business of his office has not differed materially from that of preceding years, the correspondence having been of the usual routine character.